

SECURITY INFORMATION

CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY 25X1 REPORT

INFCRMATION REPORT

CD NO.

COUNTRY Czechoslovakia

DATE DISTR. December 1952

SUBJECT Military Observations in Northern Bohemia

NO. OF PAGES 4

25X1

PLACE
ACQUIRED

NO. OF ENCLS.
(LISTED BELOW)

3 map sketches

DATE OF INFO.

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SUPPLEMENT TO
REPORT NO.

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DO NOT CIRCULATE

1. Rumburk (051/ F 78)

- a. On 9 September 1952 about 50 men were observed in the barracks courtyard doing their morning gymnastics. A three-ton truck, [redacted] carried rations into the casernes.
- b. On the night from 20 to 21 September 1952 a field exercise of factory militia under the direction of army officers took place between Doubice (051/ F 77) and Rybniste (051/ F 77). The set tactical problem was to annihilate a group of partisans hiding in forests. Dummy small arms ammunition and illuminating rockets were used during the exercise.

2. Varnsdorf (051/ F 87)

- a. Elements of Border Guards (PS) moved into the town during late August 1952. One former hotel and former hospital were requisitioned for billeting the Border Guard units, and apartments for officers are being sought.

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- b. On 16 August 1952 a passenger car [] and a lieutenant with two EM belonging to the PS were standing in front of the railroad station. At the loading platform a three-ton truck [] was being loaded with boxes and army cargo packs at the same time.

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- c. The numerical strength of the labor unit stationed in Varnsdorf varies. During September 1952 there were about 150 men in the billets. These were split every morning into work groups and were either marched off or taken by truck to their places of work. They work in forests, at building sites, and at agricultural cooperatives.

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- d. The following military vehicles were observed in the town:

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| | |
|---------------|---------------------------------------|
| truck | three ton, attached to the labor unit |
| truck | three ton, attached to the labor unit |
| passenger car | Tatra-Hadimrska, one officer, one EM, |
| | one civilian |
| passenger car | Tatra-Hadimrska, one officer, two EM |
| passenger car | Tatra-Hadimrska |

3. Kolin (051/ M 38)

- a. Little military activity could be observed on 12 and 13 September 1952 in the town. Medical examinations of draftees took place both days. The draftees marched through the town and were accompanied by a band. The draftees were of various age groups up to 40 years. Enclosure 1 shows the location of military installations in Kolin.

- b. The following military vehicles were observed in the town:

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| | |
|---------------|---|
| truck | three axles, equipped with benches for carrying troops |
| truck | three axles, carrying rations, driver with black epaulets and blue piping |
| truck | three ton |
| ambulance | |
| passenger car | Tatraplan |

4. Pardubice (051/ M 79)

- a. On 16 September 1952 at 11:30 a.m. five groups of soldiers were observed marching in close formation to the Zeleznicarske kasarny (Railroad Corps Barracks). Each group was divided into three columns of 20 men, and was led by lieutenants or 2nd lieutenants with silver braid epaulets and black piping and stripes. A staff captain and a 1st lieutenant with the same epaulets followed the formation. The soldiers were equipped with submachine guns, helmets, and gas masks.

- b. In the evening several NCOs and about 20 company-grade officers could be observed either walking through streets or sitting in restaurants. Most of the NCOs had black epaulets with blue piping; most of the officers had silver braid epaulets with black piping; the rest of the officers had gold braid epaulets with red piping. Enclosure 2 shows the location of military installations in Pardubice.

- c. The following military vehicles were observed in the town:

25X1

| | |
|---------------|---|
| truck | five ton |
| truck | five ton |
| truck | five ton |
| truck | three ton, carrying rations |
| truck | three ton, carrying air force personnel |
| jeep | |
| jeep | |
| bus | |
| passenger car | air force driver |
| passenger car | air force driver |
| passenger car | Skoda-Tudor |
| passenger car | |

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4. Decin (N51/ F 56).

On 19 September 1952 about 100 members of the PS were marching in close formation from the railroad station towards Maxicky (Maxdorf) (N51/F56). The unit was transported with its equipment to Decin by freight train. The local headquarters of these Border Guards is located in Podmokly (N51/ F 56).

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5. Straz pod Ralskem (051/ F 95)

a. A military training center is located in the castle. On 2 October 1952 about 20 lieutenants with gold braid epaulets and red piping were seen taking lunch in the local hotel.

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this number was to increase to 60 by the end of that week.

b. The military management of the agricultural estate owned by the Ministry of National Defense is located in the local mansion house belonging to the estate. A major with silver braid epaulets and brown piping was observed in company with the civilian personnel of the estate management. About 100 to 150 soldiers belonging to a military labor unit, are billeted and employed on the estate. Their age varies from 50 to 60 years.

c. The following military vehicles were observed in the town:

25X1

| | |
|---------------|--|
| truck | three ton, moving military furniture |
| truck | three ton, carrying sledges and skis and going in the direction of Liberec (051/G16) |
| truck | three ton, carrying military bedding and going in the direction of Liberec |
| truck | three ton |
| truck | three ton, going in the direction of Liberec |
| ambulance | coming from Liberec |
| passenger car | |

6. Mimon (051/ F 95)

a. A military installation shown in enclosure 2. is under construction on the northern outskirts of the town. On 4 October 1952 about 80 members of a military labor service unit were observed on the site digging ditches and laying pipes in for water mains. Two bulldozers were surfacing the site. Trucks belonging to Konstruktiva, national building enterprise, were bringing cement, bricks, iron rods and lumber to the site. About six officers and two civilians were inspecting the construction with plans. A narrow gauge track with small cars and engine is used at the site.

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b. In the evening about 200 soldiers were entraining on two trains at the Mimon station. They were loading trucks, bivouac equipment and packs. Two of the trucks (five-ton)

Drivers had black epaulets with red piping. One of the trains was leaving in the direction of Ceska Lipa (051/ F 75).

c. The following military vehicles were observed in the town:

| | |
|-------|---------------------------------------|
| truck | five ton, with a trailer |
| " | three ton |
| " | three ton, carrying building material |
| " | three ton, carrying tyres |

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| | | |
|------------|------------|--|
| [redacted] | truck | three ton |
| | " | three ton, air force driver |
| | " | three ton, air force driver |
| | " | three ton, moving furniture |
| | tank truck | |
| | ambulance | air force driver |
| | jeep | |
| | jeep | air force personnel |
| | jeep | air force personnel |
| | jeep | one colonel and one 1st. colonel with gold braid epaulets and black piping |
| | jeep | |
| | motorcycle | air force driver |

7. Zakupy (051/ F 85)

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- a. On 3 October 1952 an unidentified unit was entraining at the local railroad station. The waiting room was closed to civilians. The military train consisted of 2 passenger cars, 22 boxcars, and 15 flatcars; it had an engine [redacted]. The entraining unit was moving out of the former Forestry School. (See enclosure 3.) The loaded material included submachine guns, small arms, and artillery ammunition, 12 artillery pieces (with barrels about two meters long, caliber 50 to 60 millimeters), parachutes, three field kitchens and other miscellaneous military items. About ten 2nd lieutenants or lieutenants and 100 men, equipped with submachine guns, helmets, gas masks, and blanket and shelter half rolls, could be counted. A 1st lieutenant with an enamel parachute badge on the right side of his chest was the highest ranking officer present. The officers had gold braid epaulets with red piping and the majority of the NCOs had black epaulets with red piping, the rest of them had red epaulets with black piping. The train was ready to leave in the direction of Ceska Lipa.

- b. The following military vehicles were observed transporting the equipment between the Forestry School and the station:

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| | | |
|------------|-------|-----------|
| [redacted] | truck | three ton |
| | " | " |
| | " | " |
| | " | " |
| | " | " |
| | " | " |

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1. [redacted] Comment: Judging from the age of the men being drafted it seems highly likely that the medical examinations were of a special nature. Possibly the army is now re-examining physically those persons who were rejected from military duty in earlier years.

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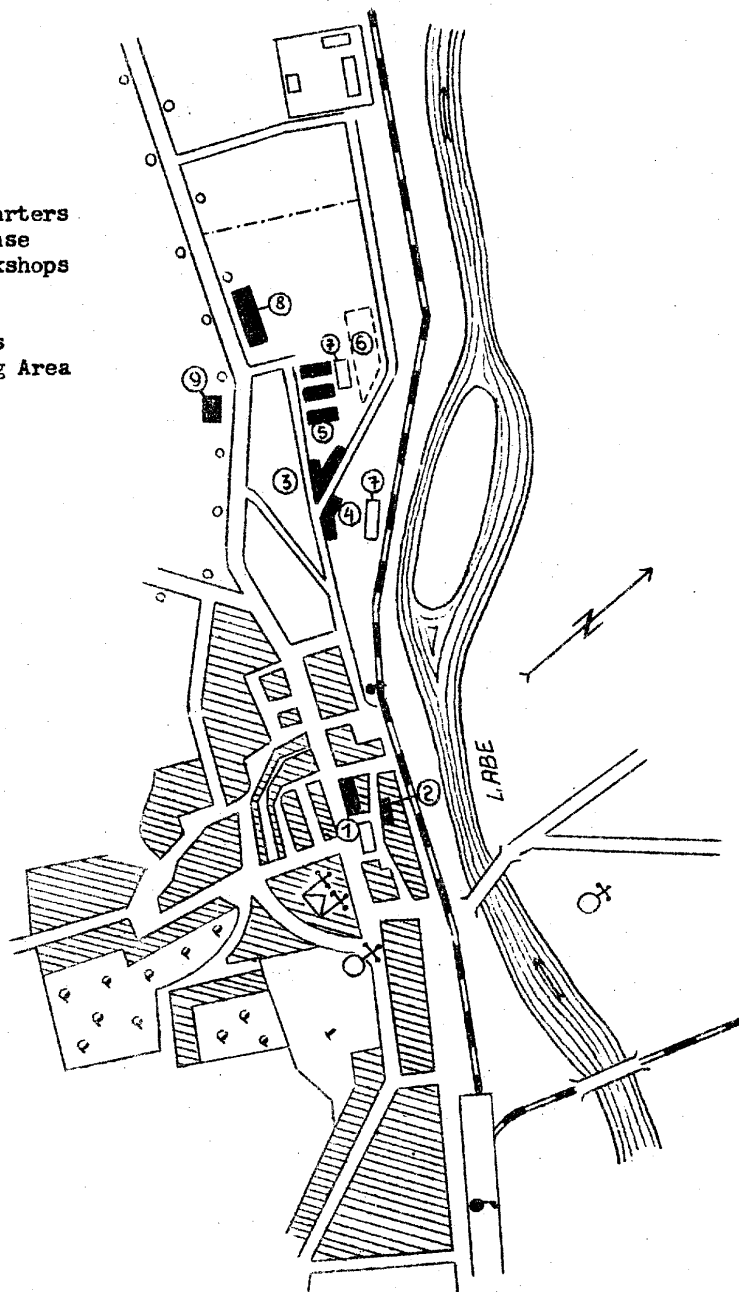
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ATTACHMENT 1.

Kolin

Legend:

- 1 - Military Headquarters
- 2 - Military Warehouse
- 3 - Billets and Workshops
- 4 - Auto Workshops
- 5 - Wooden Barracks
- 6 - Training Grounds
- 7 - Military Parking Area
- 8 - Barracks
- 9 - Guard House



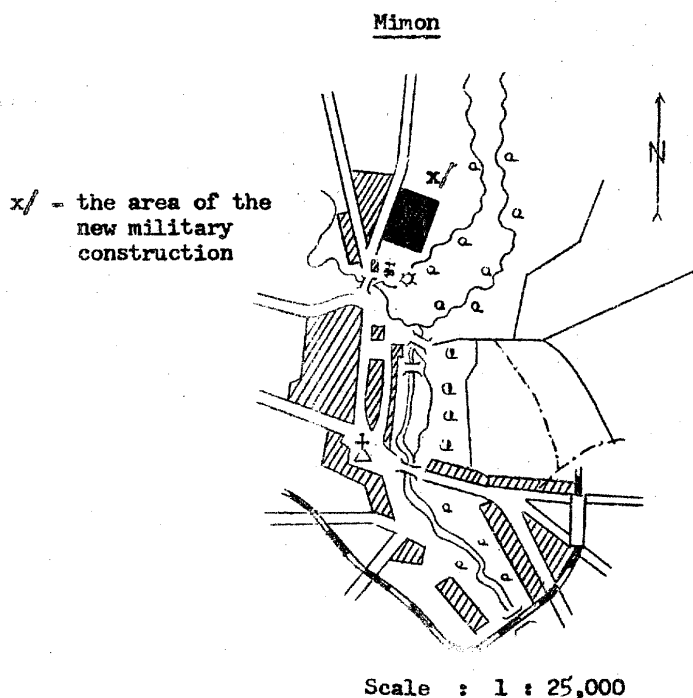
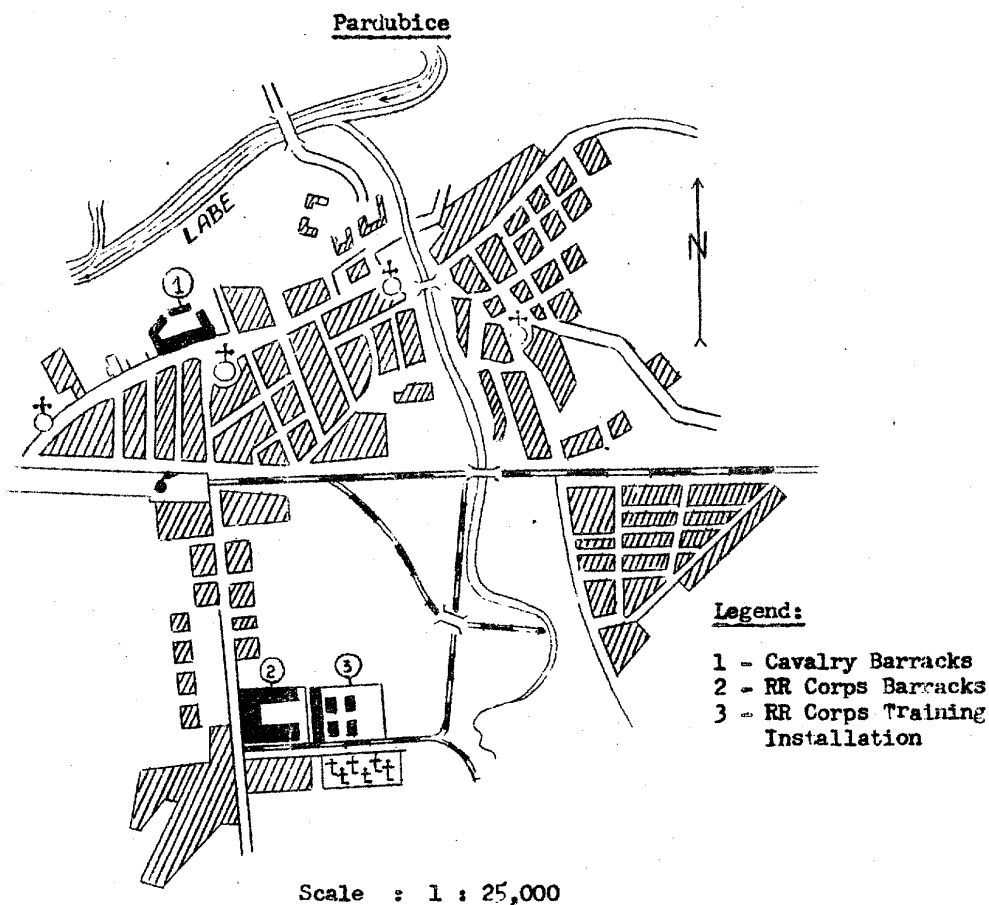
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ATTACHMENT 2.



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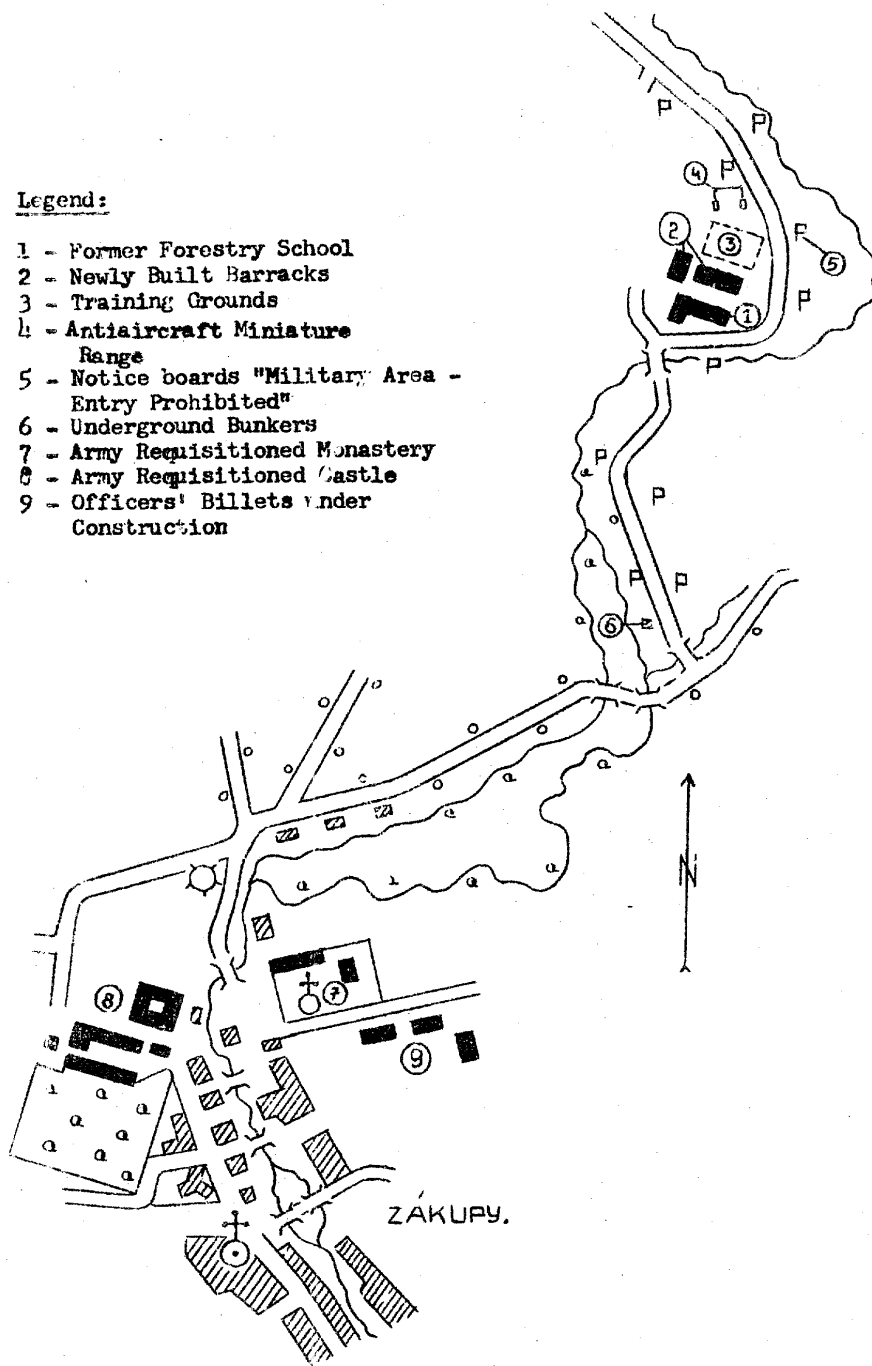
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ATTACHMENT 3

Legend:

- 1 - Former Forestry School
- 2 - Newly Built Barracks
- 3 - Training Grounds
- 4 - Antiaircraft Miniature Range
- 5 - Notice boards "Military Area - Entry Prohibited"
- 6 - Underground Bunkers
- 7 - Army Requisitioned Monastery
- 8 - Army Requisitioned Castle
- 9 - Officers' Billets under Construction



Scale : 1 : 12,500

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